

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB210

I strongly opposed this bill. Having lived and voted in multiple states I've lived across the country over the last 20 years, I have always been vocal about how well Oregon's vote-by-mail system works. In other states, the information you have going into the voting booth is far less than what we currently enjoy here. Being able to sit down with the voter guide, read the statements from the candidates as well statements in favor and opposition of different measures, and really consider your vote to make the most informed choice possible is a stark difference from other states which only provide the barest information.

This bill is a solution in search of a problem. Vote-by-mail has allowed Oregon to be one of the top states for voter engagement. Is that a problem? Vote-by-mail has made the voting process easier and more informative. Is that a problem? Vote-by-mail in Oregon remains one of the most secure voting systems in the United States, with hardly any instances of fraud. Is that a problem?

This bill will make it harder for Oregon voters to vote, make them less informed, and reduce voter turnout. These are very big problems that this bill would create while appearing to "solve" a problem that doesn't exist.

My question to the body would be: Why are Republicans so afraid of things that make the voting public more informed and engaged? The answer should be obvious.